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RICE

Summary of 1981 Support Program

and Related Information

United States
Department of
Agriculture

Agricultural Stabilization and Conservation Service

APRIL 1981

Legislative Authority:

The Food and Agriculture Act of 1977 (Public Law 95-113) amends sections relative to rice in the Agricultural Adjustment Act of 1938, as amended, and the Agricultural Act of 1949, as amended, that included those concerned with allotments, marketing quotas and penalties, producer referendums and price support methods. The 1977 Act amends Section 101 of Public Law 94-214, the "Rice Production Act of 1975," by making section 101 applicable to the 1981-crop of rice.

The rice program is carried out through loans, purchases and, as required, deficiency payments to cooperators in the program.

Program participation is voluntary.

A cooperator is a person who produces rice on a farm for which a farm acreage allotment has been established or to which a producer acreage allotment has been allocated and, if a set-aside is in effect, who has set aside any acreage required.

Allotments:

The national acreage allotment is 1,800,000 acres. The national acreage allotment is apportioned by the Secretary of Agriculture to farms, and in producer States and administrative areas to producers, on the basis of rice allotments established for the 1975 crop. Marketing quotas and penalties are suspended for the 1981 rice crop year.

Rice allotments do not represent a limit on the rice acreage that may be planted. The allotment will be used only to compute payments in the event deficiency and disaster payments are due, and serve as a basis for determining loan eligibility. Although payment eligibility will be limited to a quantity of rice equal to the yield established for the farm times that part of the allotment planted to rice, an allotment holder may plant in excess of the allotment and still maintain the allotment holder's eligibility. A producer with no rice allotment may produce and market rice, but will not be eligible for loans and purchases, or deficiency and disaster payments. A State reserve of not more than 1 percent of the State allotment may be withheld for new growers, adjustments and corrections.

Failure to plant at least 90 percent of the allotment to rice, or a crop designated by the Secretary as an eligible substitute, will result in loss of allotment not to exceed 20 percent in any one year. After two consecutive years of zero planting, the allotment will be removed.

Farmers prevented from planting because of natural disaster, or other conditions beyond their control, will not lose their allotments.

For allotment preservation purposes, any annual nonconserving crop (excluding marketing quota crops), or conserving crops used for hay or silage, or approved vegetative cover on cropland, can be credited as an acreage of rice for allotment preservation. However, on a completely idle farm, the producer must agree to forfeit program payments to protect allotment history.

Any part of the farm rice allotment acreage on which rice will not be planted may be voluntarily surrendered to the county committee. The allotment acreage surrendered will protect the history for the farm from which it is surrendered. The county committee may reapportion the surrendered allotment to other farms within the county.

An allotment may be leased to another person in the State (within the same administrative area in Louisiana) who will be actively engaged in producing rice. The allotment may also be sold. The per-acre leasing or selling price is determined by the allotment holder and the lessee or buyer.

Established Yield:

The 1981 yield established for a farm will be an average of the actual harvested yield per acre for the 1978, 1979, and 1980 crops of rice. If the yield in any one of the 3 years is abnormally low because of natural disaster, the yield for that year may be adjusted.

Set-Aside Requirement: There are no set-aside requirements or land diversion payments for the 1981-crop rice. However, if a rice allotment holder plants a set-aside crop (wheat, corn, sorghum or barley) the rice allotment holder must comply with all set-aside requirements to be eligible for the 1981 rice program benefits. There are no set-aside requirements for any of of these crops for 1981.

Loans and Purchases:

The loan and purchase rate to cooperators for the 1981 rice program is \$8.01 per hundredweight. The 1981 loan and purchase rate, as required by law, bears the same ratio to the 1980-crop loan and purchase rate as the 1981-crop target price bears to the 1980-crop target price.

Only producers with rice allotments are eligible for rice loans. Eligible producers may obtain loans on the amount of rice equal to the allotment multiplied by the established farm yield.

Loans are available through ASC county offices from harvest time through March 31, 1982. Loans mature on demand, but not later than April 30, 1982.

Loan rates to producers are based on whole kernel rice loan rates for long, medium, and short grain rice and on a broken rice loan rate. These rates are further adjusted for quality premiums and discounts and for location differentials.

Rice may be purchased by the Commodity Credit Corporation (CCC) from eligible producers at the loan rate, adjusted for premiums and discounts for quality, and other provisions under the program.

Established or Target Price:

The 1981 target price is \$10.68 per hundredweight. By law, the 1981 target price is the 1980 target price (\$9.49 per hundredweight) adjusted for the change in the two-year moving average of variable, machinery, and overhead costs for producing rice.

Target price payments will be made if the national average weighted market price received by farmers during the first 5 months of the marketing year (August through December) is less than the target price. The payment rate will be computed by subtracting from the target price the higher of (1) the average price received by farmers, or (2) the loan level.

Disaster Payments:

The Federal Crop Insurance Act of 1980 extends the disaster payment program through the 1981 crop year. A producer on a farm who elects to obtain federally subsidized crop insurance on rice waives disaster payments on that crop.

Payment Limitations:

The total amount of deficiency and voluntary diversion payments, if applicable, which a person can receive under a combination of the rice, wheat, feed grain, and upland cotton programs is \$50,000. This limitation does not apply to loans or purchases.

CCC Sales Policy:

The CCC has no rice stocks.

RICE

			Average Price		
Crop		National	to		Government
Year	Production (million cwt.)	Average Support Price (per cwt.)	Farmers (per cwt.)	Farm Value (million	Payments (million
				dollars)	dollars)

(For statistics for the years 1941 through 1954, see Rice Commodity Fact Sheet dated March 1979

1955	55.9	\$4.66	\$4.81	\$268.5	
1956	49.5	4.57	4.86	240.3	\$ 1.3 Acr. Res.
1957	42.9	4.72	5.11	219.5	14.9 Soil Bank
1958	44.8	4.42	4.68	209.4	
1959	53.6	4.38	4.59	246.3	
1960	54.6	4.48	4.55	248.4	
1961	54.2	4.71	5.14	278.6	
1962	66.0	4.71	5.04	332.6	
1963	70.3	4.71	5.01	352.2	
1964	73.2	4.71	4.90	358.6	
1965	76.3	4.50	4.93	376.2	
1966	85.0	4.50	4.95	421.0	
1967	89.4	4.55	4.97	444.0	
1968	104.1	4.60	5.00	520.5	
1969	90.9	4.72	4.95	447.2	
1970	83.8	4.86	5.17	433.2	
1971	85.8	5.07	5.34	458.2	
1972	85.4	5.27	6.73	574.9	
1973	92.8	6.07	13.80	1,280.0	
1974	112.4	7.54	11.20	1,261.4	
1975	128.4	8.52	8.35	1,072.1	
1976	115.6	8.25a-6.19b	7.02	811.4	128.3 Deficiency
1977	99.2	8.25a-6.19b	9.49	941.2	
1978	133.2	8.53a-6.40b	8.16	1,087.0	58.1 Deficiency
1979	131.9	9.05a-6.79b	10.50	1,382.0	
1980	145.1	9.49a-7.12b	12.00c	1,741.0	
1981		10.68a-8.01b			

Established target price, guaranteed on production from farm allotment times the farm's a. established yield.

Loan rate. b.

Preliminary season average price--national weighted average price received by farmers during the first five months of the marketing year was more than the established price. Thus, payments were not made.